

PRELIMINARY EMBASSY THINKING ON GENERAL SUBJECT/COUNTER-MEASURES/WAS CONTAINED EMBASSY DESPATCH 1018, JANUARY 7, 1959. IN VIEW COMPLEXITY THIS SUBJECT, FOLLOWING ARE INITIAL COMMENTS AS REQUESTED REFTEL PENDING RECEIPT TEXT WORKING-LEVEL PAPER AND FURTHER CONSIDERATION:

REF DEPTEL 2752, MAY 12, 1959

EMBASSY BELIEVES THERE MUST BE DISTINCTION BETWEEN MEASURES DIRECTED AGAINST ALLIED ACCESS, ON ONE HAND, AND THOSE AGAINST WEST GERMAN ACCESS. ON OTHER. WE ASSUME QUESTION SOVIET MEASURES A HINDERING OR CUTTING OFF WEST GERMAN ACCESS IS SEPARATE SUBJECT, OT MEYOND SCOPE OF WORKING-LEVEL PAPER, AND THAT COUNTRER-HARASS-MENTS SHOULD, WE BELIEVE, BE DIRECTED PRIMARILY AGAINST USSR. FED REP WOULD NO DOUBT ARGUE THAT MEASURES DIRECTED AGAINST OVIET ZONE IN RETALIATION HARASSMENT ALLIED ACCESS WOULD INVOLVE GRAVE DANGER OF PROVIDING EXCUSE FOR SERIOUS COMMUNIST MEASURE GAINST WEST BERLIN UP TO AND INCLUDING BLOCKADE OF CITY, MORE OVER. WE THINK IT MIGHT BE DESIRABLE MEASURES AGAINST SOVIET Z RESERVED FOR USE IN EVENT SERIOUS MOVES AGAINSE CITY.

COMMENTS RE USEFULNESS AND APPROPRIATENESS SPECIFIC REASURES
COUNTER-ACTION IN RETALIATION FOR PARTICULAR MEASURES OF HARASS MENT WILL BE GIVEN AFTER RECEIPT WORKING-LEVEL PER TEXT. E FULLY AGREE, AS STATED REFTEL, THAT ANY COUNTER-HARASSMENT

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SHOULD BE UNIFIED ALLIED ACTION AND THIS SHOULD INCLUDE APPROPRIATE
STEPS BY FED REP, WE WOULD ALSO LIKE EMPHASIZE IMPORTANCE, AS
WOLCATED REFTEL, OF NEED FOR ADVANCE PREPARATION, PRIOR COORD
TOWN WITH ALLIES AND SPEED OF ALLIED RETAILATION.

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